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April 27th, 2021

Dear Chair DeFazio and Ranking Member Graves:

I am requesting funding for Reconstruction of State Road 33/Interstate 4 Interchange (Exit 38) in the surface transportation reauthorization legislation.

The project sponsor for this project is the City of Lakeland, Florida and the project is located at Interstate 4/State Road 33 reconstruction project at Exit 38 in Lakeland, Florida.

The funding is designated for the reconstruction of the existing diamond interchange and adjacent two-lane section of State Road 33 from south of First park Boulevard South to north of Tomkow Road to a four-lane cross-section with sidewalks and a multi-use trail. The eastbound and westbound ramp terminals on State Road 33 will be converted to roundabouts and the existing SR 33/University Boulevard signalized intersection will also be converted to roundabout traffic control.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars and is anticipated to have the following benefits. It will provide a new modern interchange to serve automobile traffic and to meet freight movement needs at an interchange that was last improved in the 1960s and is the last interchange in District One to be built or reconstructed during that time (reconstruction of nearby CR 557 interchange is underway). The project will reduce delays experienced by motorists and students in the area. This project will also reduce congestion due to nearby logistics complexes that have been completed or are under construction over the past two years. The interchange reconstruction project is the adopted #1 Priority of the Polk Transportation Planning Organization (TPO).

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,



C. Scott Franklin